SUPERVISOR'S DECLARATION

I hereby declare that I have checked this thesis and in my opinion, this thesis is adequate in terms of scope and quality for the award of the degree of Master of Science.

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STUDENT'S DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the work in this thesis is based on my original work except for quotations and citations which have been duly acknowledged. I also declare that it has not been previously or concurrently submitted for any other degree at Universiti Malaysia Pahang or any other institutions.

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ENGINEERING STUDENTS' PERCEPTIONS TOWARDS THE USE OF A VOCABULARY MOBILE APPLICATION IN LEARNING TECHNICAL VOCABULARY

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ABSTRAK

Kajian ini telah dijalankan untuk mengkaji persepsi para pelajar jurusan kejuruteraan terhadap penggunaan aplikasi telefon mudah alih, VocBlast dalam membantu mereka untuk mempelajari perbendaharaan kata teknikal. Ia juga bertujuan untuk membuat perbandingan pendapat mengenai VocBlast antara pelajar lelaki dan pelajar perempuan. Kajian ini hanya memberi fokus kepada dua kunci utama iaitu impak penggunaan VocBlast bagi tujuan mempelajari perbendaharaan kata teknikal dan ciri-ciri VocBlast yang membantu para pelajar dalam mempelajari perbendaharaan kata teknikal. Data telah dikumpul dengan menggunakan kaedah bercampur. Kaedah kualitatif digunakan sebagai sumber utama dalam pengumpulan data. Data diperoleh melalui kaedah kualitatif telah digunakan untuk membentuk soalan kaji selidik bagi mengumpulkan data kuantitatif. Hasil kajian menunjukkan pelajar berpendapat bahawa VocBlast telah mampu untuk meningkatkan penguasaan perbendaharaan kata teknikal terutamanya ejaan dan maksud perkataan. Ia juga menunjukkan bahawa terdapat beberapa ciri di dalam VocBlast yang menarik minat para pelajar untuk menggunakan aplikasi tersebut. Hasil kajian kuantitatif mencadangkan bahawa tiada perbezaan yang signifikan antara jantina bagi impak penggunaan VocBlast untuk mempelajari perbendaharaan kata teknikal. Ia juga menunjukkan bahawa tiada perbezaan yang signifikan antara jantina bagi ciri-ciri VocBlast yang membantu mereka mempelajari perbendaharaan kata teknikal. Secara keseluruhannya, kajian ini telah membuktikan bahawa aplikasi telefon mudah alih bagi pembelajaran perbendaharaan kata mampu menyumbangkan beberapa sumbangan yang bernilai kepada pengalaman mempelajari perbendaharaan kata teknikal dalam kalangan pelajar jurusan kejuruteraan.

ABSTRACT

The current study aims at examining the engineering students' perception towards the use of mobile application, namely VocBlast in assisting them to learn technical vocabulary as well as to analyze the perceived usefulness of using VocBlast among genders. The study only focuses on two key elements which are the perceived impact of using VocBlast to learn technical vocabulary and the features in VocBlast that assist engineering students to learn technical vocabulary. The data was collected by employing a mixed method in which qualitative method was used as the main source of data collection. Data gained from the qualitative data was used to formulate questionnaire for the purpose of collecting quantitative data. Results from the study illustrate that the students perceived VocBlast to have increased their technical vocabulary knowledge especially in spelling and definition. Findings from the research show that there are several features that students like about VocBlast. The quantitative result suggests that there is no significant difference between genders in the impact of using VocBlast to learn technical vocabulary. Also, no significant difference was found among genders in term of the feature in VocBlast that assists them to learn technical vocabulary. In conclusion, this study has proven that vocabulary mobile application can offer valuable contributions to the technical vocabulary learning experience among the engineering students.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

CALL	Computer-assisted language learning
CBI	Computer Based Instruction
EDA	Exploratory Data Analysis
EFL	English as Foreign Language
ELL	English Language Learners
ESL	English as Second Language
ESP	English for Specific Purposes
ICT	Information, Communication, and Technology
GUI	Graphical User Interface
MALL	Mobile-assisted language learning
MCQ	Multiple Choice Questions
OS	Operating System
PIE	Preparatory Intensive English
RPGs	Role Playing Games
SLA	Second Language Acquisition
SMS	Short Messaging System
SPSS	Statistical Package for the Social Science
TAM	Technology Acceptance Model
UKM	Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia
UMP	Universiti Malaysia Pahang
UMS	Universiti Malaysia Sabah

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